

Message Text

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ORIGIN COME-00

INFO OCT-01 AF-06 ISO-00 EB-07 /014 R

DRAFTED BY COM/OED/MEPD/SCONGER/MJJ

APPROVED BY EB/OCA/REP/EMCKEON

COM/OED/MEPD/JMSANDS, DIRECTOR

COM/BIC/OIM/FOCWIEJA (INFO)

STATE/AF/C-APALMER (PHONE)

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R 262313Z MAR 75

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY LIBREVILLE

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: BEXP, GB

SUBJECT: SANTA CLARA MINERAL PORT

REF: (A) LIBREVILLE 413; (B) STATE 62176

1. AMBASSADOR'S APPROACH BONGO RE SOROS ASSOCIATES (SA)
GREATLY APPRECIATED.

2. SA PLANS SEND HIGH-LEVEL REP (EITHER PAUL SOROS,
PRESIDENT, OR JAMES TIMPSON, VICEPRESIDENT) LIBREVILLE TO
MEET WITH BONGO AS SOON AS LATTER RETURNS KUWAIT,
YUGOSLAVIA.

3. PAUL SOROS WILL BE PARIS WEEK APRIL 22 AND WOULD LIKE
TO MEET THERE BONGO OR OTHER GOG OFFICIALS HAVING KEY
ROLES SANTA CLARA PORT WHO HAPPEN TO BE IN PARIS AT THAT
TIME. SUCH MEETINGS WOULD NOT NECESSARILY SUPPLANT SA
VISIT GABON (PARA. 2, ABOVE). AS INFO BECOMES AVAILABLE,
EMBASSY SHOULD NOTIFY COMMERCE WHICH RELEVANT GOG
OFFICIALS PLAN TO BE IN PARIS THAT WEEK.

4. COMMERCE GAVE SA SETIMEG PHONE PARIS (REF. B). IN
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ACCORDANCE WITH NEW INFO BROUGHT WASHINGTON BY

AMBASSADOR MCKESSON, SA WRITING RAWIRI RE PLANS VISIT
GABON AND OFFERING GOG ALTERNATIVE OF SENDING TO NEW YORK
DELEGATION OF THEIR CHOOSING (WHICH WOULD PRESUMABLY

INCLUDE GAVARY). CABLE SUMMARIZING LETTER WILL BE SENT
EMBASSY BY COMMERCE FOR TRANSMISSION RAWIRI BEFORE HE
LEAVES FOR KUWAIT.

5. EMBASSY SHOULD STRIVE GET GOG SIGN SA CONTRACT PORT
DESIGN/ENGINEERING BEFORE, REPEAT BEFORE, MAKING ANY
DECISIONS RE CONSTRUCTORS OR SUPPLIERS (REF. B, PARA
3). SCENARIO ENVISAGED CALLS FOR SA GETTING DESIGN/
ENGINEERING CONTRACT ASAP, THEN SOLICITING BIDS
CONSTRUCTION AND EQUIPMENT. GOG, AS WELL AS BETHLEHEM
STEEL, U.S. STEEL AND PARTNERS SOMIFER, COMILOG, WOULD
THEREBY GET ADVANTAGE SA EXPERIENCE, TECHNOLOGY,
INTEGRITY SELECTING BEST FIRMS FOR CONSTRUCTION AND
EQUIPMENT ON PRICE/QUALITY/EFFICIENCY BASIS. AS SOON
AS SA CONTRACT SIGNED, COMMERCE WILL SEE THAT COMPETENT
U.S. CONSTRUCTORS AND EQUIPMENT SUPPLIERS ARE ALERTED
TO OPPORTUNITY BID.

6. SA IS PRINCIPAL--I.E., PRIME CONTRACTOR--IN PROPOSAL
FOR DESIGN/ENGINEERING SANTA CLARA. BCEOM WOULD BE SUB-
CONTRACTOR FOR SOME OF CIVIL WORKS DESIGN. DAMAS AWARE
THIS RELATIONSHIP. KISSINGER

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: n/a
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 26 MAR 1975
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: MorefiRH
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1975STATE068904
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: OED/MEPD/SCONGER/MJJ
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D750107-0321
From: STATE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1975/newtext/t19750312/aaaaakoz.tel
Line Count: 87
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ORIGIN COME
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 75 LIBREVILLE 413, 75 STATE 62176
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: MorefiRH
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 22 MAY 2003
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <22 MAY 2003 by ifshinsr>; APPROVED <02 JUN 2003 by MorefiRH>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
05 JUL 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: SANTA CLARA MINERAL PORT
TAGS: BEXP, GB
To: LIBREVILLE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 05 JUL 2006